Her sable pupils had departed, and Esther Arden-for she it was-was wenrily putting her desk in order, and going over and over again the visit of the afternoon. Had Colonel Verner not recognized her, or had he not wish. the old scorn and loathing?

Reader, it would not be strange if he had not recognized in the beautiful, self reliant woman, with unmistakable man ke of culture and refinement, the shy, uninformed Esther of three years ago.

"risther." She started violently at the voice, and dropped the book she held.

There seemed no cause for agitation.

Colonel Vernon held out his hand calmly, as he would to any acquaintance he had not for a long time seen.

"Do you like your school? Isn't it

dull now?" were his next questions, after inquiries for her health.
"Not dull," she said, striving to speak as calmly as he had done, "her time was too full employed to allow of that."

"Was there any society?" "Yes, at the fort; quite a number of the officers' wires were there, and were

very social and gay." Had Colonel Vernon forgotton their

He learned that she had come there with the wife of the surgeon, who was stationed there, both of whom were particular friends. On his part, he spoke of the various places to which his regiment had been sent, and its fortunes and successes.

They parted at the fort ; she to won, der at the manner in which he had met her, and to blush at the consciousness she had manifested.

She felt inclined to leave the place directly; but she was; conscious of the ridiculousness of fleeing when there was nothing from which to fice.

In the society of the fort, from which she could not always absent herself, they the immediate vicinity of the Messenfrequently met. After a short time, he often joined her on her way to or from her school. They became more than nequaintances-friends! bet still that strange reserve on his part regarding the past, Esther sometimes questioned if it were not all a dream.

The evening had been spent at the she did not try to check the gay flow of pound. spirits. "It would be brief enough," she said to herself

Colonel Vernon seemed strangely disquieted as he looked at her, and listened to her brilliant conversation. of anxiety. He took the first opportunity | made. to secure a tete a-tete.

A few gay sentences between them, and a silence which he broke finally and abruptly.

"I am going away to morrow; will my wife go with me He waited for an answer, but none

"Will not Esther answer me?" he asked, repreachfu'ly.

"I have never heard Colonel Vernon say before that he had a wife," she answered, a little proudly.

past would not bear recalling. My own past, at least, I had nothing to be proud of. Yes, I had a wife. How, in the fever of my madness, I treated her, I need not tell you. I had my punish. ment shortly afterward in this letter, which I picked up that evening proving her false and faithless whom I had believed little short of an angel. Read it:at your leisure. With the reading of that letter the dream was over, if not the suffering.

"I had nothing to live for. My wife had fled. I sought her, but she left no traces of her flight. I could not blame her. I entered the Army. Often I thought of my young girl-wife, and service. In him is found the type of yearned to see her. I knew she was the true soldier. In saying, thus much true and pure, and I learned to prize when I had forever lost her.

"One day-day of days-I came un wittingly upon her. I found my shy girl-wife transformed to a self possessed cultivated woman, with wit and beauty sufficient to have broughtscores of lovers to her feet had she chosen. I did not dure to claim this glorious woman. She would have scorned me, and banished me from her sight forever. Loving her more truly, more hopelessly each time we met, my silence continued. It is only now that I am ordered away that I have courage to say :

"Esther I love you with my whole soul, as I never loved before, reverently, tenderly, and entirely. You : ramy wife, though I am all unworthy. Eather, must

I go alone ?" She had bowed her face till it was hidden in her hands, while he was speaking. The did not look up when he had finished.

He waited tremblingly and auxiously. "Esther," he whispered, bending down and stroking her hair tenderly. "This silence gives me hope." Am I right?" lifting her face till he

could see into her eyes, and added, with deep feeling : "My Esther, my pure, true, beautiful

wife." Moss and ELM CANDY .- This is an ensirely new preparation manufactured by Perner and Burgess, Eric Pa., for the re-her of Coughs, Colds, Throat diseases, Hourseness &c. It is far superior to the majority of Cough candies now is use, and must take the lead. It is put up in neat and convenient packages, and is just the thing for the masses. Everybody will try it and after once using will never be with out it. The great demand for it wherever introduced is a sure indication of its good qualities. It can be had of all dealers in

confectionary

ELK ADVOCATE

Hereshall the Pressthe people's rights maintain Unawed by party and unbribed by gwin; Pledged but to Truth, Liberty and Law, No favor sways us and no fear shall awe."

Published Every Saturday BY P. W. BARRETT. Ridgway, Pa. Jan. 14 1865. S. M. PETTENGILL & CO,' ADVERTISEING AGENCY

11 9 Nassau St., New York and 10 State St., Boston S. M. PETTENGELL & Co., are the Agents for the most infinential OCATE and the t circulating States and Newspapers in the Canadas- they orized to conreet for us at our lo

THE OIL EXCITEMENT .- The oil excitement in this vicinity is still raging with remarkable virulence. We are glad to learn that two of our friends, Messrs George Messenger and Jeremiah Elliott, both of Spring Creek township, relation? In no way or manner did he on the Clarion, have recently made a allude to it, and Esther acted upon the handsome speculation in the sale of hint she felt intended for her benefit. their territory. The farm of Mr. Mes. senger, containing 300 acres, brought the very handsome sum of \$50,000, and that of Mr. Elliott, containing 500 acres sold nearly as well, bringing, we are told, \$53,000. The purchaser was a gentle. man by the name of Scott, and it is his intention we believe, to at once com-mence operations. The sale of these lands has given quite an impetus to oil speculations, and we would not be surprised if some of the lucky property holders in the vicinity of Ridgway would realize handsome fortunes from the sale of their land.

We also understand that the Arm. strong property, on the Clarion, and in ger property, has been purchased by a company of speculators for the sum of

enterprising and indefatigable citizens, has again commenced boring at his well in this place. It is now down to the depth of 240 feet, and the indications fort gayly. Esther was in brilliant are pronounced by experienced judges spirits. Usually quiet, she was now the as excellent indeed. We sincerely trust life of the gay company. She scarcely the Judge's undertaking will be rewar-recognized herself in this new mood, but ded with a good flow of the greasy com. ded with a good flow of the greasy com.

The Ridgway Pioneer and Prospecting oil company's well, which was abandoned some time ago, has been leased by a company of New York capitalists, who will resume operations as soon as He appeared to have some secret cause the necessary arrangements can be

CAPT. R. FENT WARD.

It is no less a pleasure than a duty to us to give a place in our columns, in honor of the man whose name heads this article. Most of our patrons will remember that Capt. R. Fent Ward was at the opening of the war, connected with this office. When fierce rebellion reared its crest and threatened to strike down all that was dear to the hearts of American patriots, he was one of the Esther it was because I knew the many thousands of our gallant youth ast would not bear recalling. My own who rallied to the standard of their country. How he has conducted him. self upon the tented field is sufficiently told, when we say that he has been wounded five times, the last time so se. verely as to be rendered unfit for service. He went into the ranks a private, and rose through the various grades until he became Captain, since then he was offered the Colonelcy of a regiment, but with that modesty that always accompanies true worth, he declined. He now holds a commission as Major, but the severity of his wounds will no doubt compel him to be mustered out, notwithstanding his anxiety to remain in active ! service. In him is found the type of of him, we feel that we are but doing honor, to whom honor is due.

> THE sagacious editor of the Erie Dispatch has made some remarkable discoveries concerning Ridgway, as the Head Quarters of the Provost Marshall of this District. The office has been located at Waterford, Eric Co., with the exception of a few weeks, since its creation, and has thereby accommodated the public of that portion of the districand discommoded the balance. It seems but just, that the claims of the lower counties should be now remembered. and they in their turn similarly favor-

> The statement made that "the men connected with the office are getting disgusted," is the first intelligence the men have received that such a state of "disgust" exists. The "men" have been very well accommodated, and we cannot see that they show much sign of dissatisfaction. If, however, the authorities see fit to again move the office, we trust that they will have the good sense not to locate it at the extreme edge of the District, or in a large town or city. It is much better for the interests of the service to have it in some quiet country place. The associations of a city of the size of Erie, render it as undesirable point for an office of this kind, if it can be svoid. ed ; and its situation, geographically con, sidered, should place it entirely out of consideration in locating the Head-

Quarters of the 19th District.

drafted on the 11th lost., in Fox township, Elk Co. Pa., and Brady township, Clearfield county Pa.

FOX TOWNSHIP, ELK CO., PA.

Wm. Gibson, Daniel Oyster, J. S. Chamberlin, John Lamb, Jos. Entzinger, Jos. Boutzer, Amber Strait, Thomas Patterson, John Koch, Robt. Hillock, John Moser, Alonzo Mohan, W. W. Rogers, Barney Braniff, James Hays, A. O. Chase, Ralph Bell, Geo. Conner, Elias Moyer, John Mann, Jas. Iddings, O. P. Keltz, James Hancock, Wm. Hewlett, Mathew Hays, John Sullivan, J. E. Horning, George Keller, John Emmett, Isaac Hays, Lewis Iddings, John Sellinger, A. Kyler, John Pendiler, Philip Megers, George Dillow.

BRADY TOWNSHIP, CLEAR. FIELD CO., PA.

Martin Eshentelter, David Ellinger, David Walburn, John Munholand, David Reams, Nicholas Sallady, Nicholas Faust, Samuel Fay, Joel Genter, J. B. Kirk, Samuel Shaffer, Benj. Carson, Wm. Wingart, George Peutz, Henry Everson, Isaac Zortman.

Boy We have in a brief space, notice d the return from the army of Capt. R. Fent Ward, and it would be doing great injustice to a good and faithful soldier of Company, K. 111th Regiment, not to give him likewise, a passing notice. We have reference to Wm. Wood, who is now in town, having been mustered out of service a short time ago. He went as a volunteer under Capt. J. A. Boyle, and as all good and faithful soldiers should do, served his time, and was honorably discharged. We extend to him, as well as all others, a hearty wel-

CANADA ARMING-THE QUALI-TY OF ITS FORCES-A DRAFT. The year of 1865 finds Canada armon paper. Its force consists of one hundred and twelve battalions of militia, Judge Dickinson, one of our most termed "Service Militia," and these are to be filled by a draft at once, and as

In Canada West, 61 battalions. In Canada East. 51 battalions

112 battalions. The battalion will muster 795 men; and 112 battalions will therefore, give 89,040, or, with the officers, 100,000 men in round numbers.

This force is now being filled by a draft from able-bodied males between the ages of eighteen and forty five, who are from the "Eighteenth Class Service" men. It is to receive six days drill at any time that the Governor General may order it.

PEACE MOVEMENTS AGAIN .- It is known that the two Blairs, some weeks since started for Richmond, on a peace mission, and that they returned some days'since, not having been able 'to obtain passes through the rebel lines. But cates that a new trial has been underta ken by the Blairs :

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8. The two Blairs left here yesterday for General Grant's headquarters, where, it is said, passes are waiting for them, signed by the rebel Secretary of War, permitting them to go to Richmond. This fact gives the late peace-mission renewed vitality here.

LATER -A Washington dispatch of the 9th says it is a question whether Mr. Blair will go to Richmond, He was still in Washington.

Ayer's American Almanae has now arrived and is ready for delivery at J. Powell's, Ridgway, Pa., to all who call for it. This number contains a treatise on Scrofula and its kindred complaints, which is well worth perusal. It also gives much general medical information, which is useful and should be kept against a time of need in every family. Its compilation of jokes and anecdotes is about the best that reaches us, and these facts together have given it a circulation which is said to be the largest of any one book in the world.

Brown's Bronchial Troches .- A depot is opened in London for the sale of these Lozenges, which have been so long in use in America for relieving Asthma, Bronchitis, Coughs, Throat Disorders and Affections of the Lungs.

Liverpool Post.

The following is a list of persons STATEMENT of the Assessments, made by the assessors, for the several districts in Silver Carriages DISTRICT. Estate Estate Watches Walches Benezette. 187. 407 · 79. 164 112. 468 6. 941 12, 746 Fox, Highland, 2. 021 2, 300 2, 777 3, 900 121, 788 101, 874 Spring Creek, 24, 079 1, 055 7. 870

The Arsessments of Benzinger and Ridgway townships, have not yet been received.

The Commissioners of Elk County, will meet at their office in Ridgway, on Tuesday the 17th day of January inst., for the purpose of determining whether any of the above assessments have been made below a just rates and to raise, equalize and adjust the same

GEO. DICKINSON. Commissioners.

ATTEST : JOHN C. MCALLISTER, Clerk. Commissioners Office, Ridgway, Eik County Pa., Jan. 6th 1865.

CALL FOR 300,000 MEN-A Proclamation.

Whereas, By the act approved July 4th, 1864, entitled, "An act further to regulate audiprovide for the enrolling and calling out of the National forces, and for other purposes," it is provided that the President of the U. States may at his discretion, at any time hereafter, call for any number of men as volun. teers for the respective terms of one, two, and three years, for military service, and that in case the quota, or any part thereof, of any town, township, ward of a city. precinct or election district, or of a coun. ty not subdivided, shall not be filled within the space of fifty days after such call then the President shall immediately order a draft for one year, to fill such quota or any part thereof which may be unfilled; and Whereas, by the credits allowed in accordance with the act of Congress on the call for five hun. dred thousand men to be obtained under that call was reduced to two hundred and eighty thousand; and Where, as, the operations of the enemy in cer. tain States have rendered it impractica. ble to procure from them their full quoing. It is about to put forth its strength ta of troops under said call ; and Whereas, from the foregoing causes but two hundred and fifty thousand men have been put into the army, navy and ma. rine corps under the said call of July 18, 1864, leaving a deficiency on that call of two hundred and fifty thousand; now therefore, I Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America, in order to supply the aforesaid deficiency and to provide for casualties in the military and naval service of the United States do issue this my call, for three hundred thousand volunteers

serve for one, two, or three years. The quotas of the States, Districts, and Sub-districts under this call, will be assigned by the War Department through the bureau of the Provost Ma. shal-General of the United States, and in case the quota or any part thereof of any town, township, ward, or a city precinct or election district, or of a county not so sub divided, shall not be filled before the 15th day of February, 1865, then a draft shall be made to fill up this call which may be unfilled on the

fifteenth day of February, 1865. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of

the United States to be affixed. [L. S.] Done at the city of Washinghundred and sixty-four, and of the inde. pendence of the United States of America the eighty.ninth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN. By the President, WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

From the Bunner of Liberty. CALCULATING GREENBACK CURRENCY.

A Dutchman, who keeps a country store in the neighborhood of Boston, had ten pieces of calico on his shelves when the prices began to advance. He sold out at the old rates, and, said expedition up Roanoke River has rehe:

"When I went to de city to buy more, de money dat I got for my ten pieces of calico bought only eight. took my eight pieces home, and marked a high profit on 'em, and sold dem fast enough, and when dey was all gone, I took my money and went to de city, and by dunder, it bought only six pieces. Well, thinks I, dis is making money backwards. But I look my six pieces home, and put an awful big profit on dem, and now, thinks I, I must make money like smoke. But when I got dem six pieces sold, I took de money I got for dem to de city again, and thought I would get about twelve pieces, but the calicoes had gone up again, and I got only four pieces. Well, took dem home, put on a much bigger profit as I did before, and thought now makes a heap of money. But when got dem sold, and went after more, de calicoes had gone up again, and I hope I may never die if I got more as two pieces for my money. So here I was. I had ten pieces of calico when I started off to sell dem, and here I am new mit only two pieces and no money. Why, I should had been better off if I had shut up de store, keep my calicoes, and not sold dem at all.

Most retail merchants have met with similar experience during the past year or two, without the Dutchman's sagacity to detect the deception of a nominal profit in the number of "doilars," while sustaining actual loss of goods and value .- ED.

Harrisburg legislators are in troub Board at hotels is four dollars per day, their pay is but three .- Exchange . Never fear. They won't lose

FROM THE SOUTH

RICHMOND DATES ON SAT-

The Expedition Against Wilmington. THE REBELS JUBILANT OVER

FAILURE.

BRAGG ISSUES A CONGRAT ULATORY ORDER.

Rebel Loss 3 Killed and 55 Wounded. Bursting of Two Guns in Fort

Fisher. FOUR GUNS DISMOUNTED.

Quiet Around Petersburg.

AFFAIRS IN SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA.

The Importance of the Salt Works to the Confederacy.

Breckinridge Chafing Like a Wounded Lion

Rebel Moseby Was Wounded. FROM SAVANNAH AND

CHARLESTON. The Negro Question in South Carolina.

SACKING OF ATLANTA BY THE GEORGIANS.

The Richmond "Whig" on the Situa-

Richmond papers of the 30th and 31st December have been received at the office of the INQUIRER, from which we extract the following: From the Richmond Sentinel, Dec. 31st.

From Wilmington. Wilmington, N. C., Dec. 30, 1864,-Gen. Bragg has issued a congratulatory order on the defeat of the enemy's grand such quota, or any part thereof, under armada before Wilmington, paying a merited compliment to Generals Whiting and Kirkland, Colonel Lamb, and

officers and men engaged. The enemy's attack the first day las. ted five hours; on the second day seven hours; firing altogether over twenty the dispatch which we print below indi-ton this 19th day of December, in the thousand shots from fifty-nine vessels. Year of our Lord one thousand eight The Confederates responded with six The Confederates responded with six determination of the government hundred and sixty two shots on the first

day, and six hundred on the second. Our loss is three killed and fifty-five

The ground in front and rear of the fort is covered with shells, and is torn in deep pits; two guns in the fort burst, two were dismounted by ourselves, two bythe enemy's fire, yet the fort is un-

Scouts report that Butler made speech at Newbern, saying he would eat is Christmas dinner in Wilmington.

It is reported that a part of a negro regiment and the Fifth Regiment of Regulars were lost in the gale. The than at any previous time (during

From the Richmond Sentinel, Dec. 41, Editorial.

ARRIVAL OF BLOCKADE RUNNERS The defeat of the grand attempt against Wilmington, for which, thank God, is matter of universal congratula. tion among our citizens, everybody is pleased and jubilant. Liberal prais. es are showered upon the officers, and fervent thanksgivings are offered to Him who fought for us by sending His gales upon the deep. The attack of the ene. my, which ceased on the 26th, became an escape an the 27th; on the 28th their great fleet of the monitors and transports had disappeared behind the ocean's convexity. Whither gone we know not yet.

A gale on the night of the 27th overtook them, with what effect we have not yet heard. The previous buffetings of the winds and waves had been fatal to most of their horses. We doubt not that the expedition will add up a heavy disaster to the enemy. As a very pleasant sequel to our most gratifying tri umph, we mention the fast that on yes terday news was received here of the arrival of four blockade runners at Wilmington, loaded with supplies for our armics. One of the vessels was aground, "Faderland," with wooden-she

England and France Fourth of March

THE papers came last v with exciting rumors of inter the part of England and I American affairs. How there is in the report, time grate; but there is at least of such action. The circ Lord Byons leaving Wash. months' leave of ab ance, top the known military novema. Car das, and the thoring a correspondent we ton to the Works at the there

prehension. I ders of Southern they would naturally have case the Southern Confedera be made to succumb to the px-Government. The South, as is jo declare, and as Mr. Prentit Louisville Journal, who h Richmond for the last five we would sooner be reduced to under English protection, with sla abolished, than to come back under Federal yoke. England it care to have the Union rest our own Govern to peace or per ly putting.

Union, n

that now, when ing successful, and the rebel rently weaker than at any to the rebellion began, we find a n midable foe to contend withcoln and Mr. Seward have she selves entirely inadequate to quirements of the people whom present, in allowing this civid drag its slow length along, with wise statesmanship they could made peace and restored the Evien have been better able to beat buc armies of England and France. A er sign showing more forcibly the from those two powers is, hat Seward is said to be preparing to the Secretaryship of State, and to the Scuate, for the purpose cating peace measures. It wo.ld.s that he is frightened at the aspec foreign affairs, and wishes to thre responsibility on to other should

case trouble comes, The letter referred to above

Washington, January If stories which are obtaining the rency here are to be believed, the least real danger to be apprehende tervention in our affairs by Englishmen. It is known here, and have been known in the State D for several days, that England quietly organizing a large force to be held in readiness for some iduty. An order, mo reover, is known been issued, percentority rejourned absence to the officers of season of the rejourned cent marvelous promptness of the Can nutborities in raising men, even at pense of an enforced dreft, or for the last of the can appear of the number of the pense of an enforced dreft, or for the last of an appearance and dreft. text of an apprehe nded invasion Fenians, is thought to point clear! fact that they had been instructed the first opportunity of organizing able forces for any emergency

The recent notice of the the Reciprocity treaty and work with all possible haste up gunboats intended for service northern lakes is also noticed by who are now watching the signs times with intense interest.

Additional excitement has been av kened by the important leading elitorial in the Richmond Examnier and the Sentinal of the 2nd instant. There's believed to have been prompted by Louis Napoleon, and to have been put forward to prepare the minds of the southern people for the last bold move of the re

That the South is now harder pushe war cannot be denied, and the uni ness of England and Frank Union restored is well undq will never permit the Soul qured. It is believed gramme will be in e Notice will be given, afte. March, that England and I nize Mr Lincola as Presid such states as are repres electoral college, which is to a recognition of confede dence. The course hinted Richmond papers is believe been adopted some time si confederate states have alr hemselves as colonies of France, or at least asks tho assume protectorate over the

Hans Enlists for

"Brick Pomroy," of Wisconsin) Democrat, is oker, and lately witnessed Milwaukee that we transfer umns. The reader must pictus big-bellied, short haired recru cer, with a blue cap, broad, stiff piece, a short sword, bive un too small, and a raw customer but we trust has been since gotten long-tailed grey coat. The

LIST of letters, 1st 1865. John W Sexton,